United Nations S/PV.3706

Security Council

Fifty-first Year

Provisional

3706th Meeting

Tuesday, 22 October 1996, 11.35 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Urbizo Panting	(Honduras)
Members:	Botswana	Mr. Legwaila
	Chile	Mr. Larraín
	China	Mr. Wang Xuexian
	Egypt	Mr. Elaraby
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Germany	Mr. Eitel
	Guinea-Bissau	Mr. Cabral
	Indonesia	Mr. Wisnumurti
	Italy	Mr. Ferrarin
	Poland	Mr. Wlosowicz
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Park
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir John Weston
	United States of America	Mrs. Albright

Agenda

The situation in Afghanistan

Letter dated 8 October 1996 from the Representatives of Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/1996/838)

96-86588 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 11.35 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Afghanistan

Letter dated 8 October 1996 from the representatives of Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/1996/838)

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): In accordance with the decision taken by the Council at its 3705th meeting, I invite the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan to take a seat at the Council table; I invite the representatives of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Japan, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to take the seats reserved for them at the side of the Council Chamber.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Ghafoorzai (Afghanistan) took a seat at the Council table; Mr. Shah (India), Mr. Kharrazi (Islamic Republic of Iran), Mr. Campbell (Ireland), Mr. Owada (Japan), Ms. Arystanbekova (Kazakstan), Mrs. Eshmambetova (Kyrgyzstan), Mr. Kamal (Pakistan), Mr. Alimov (Tajikistan), Mr. Çelem (Turkey), Mrs. Ataeva (Turkmenistan) and Mr. Vohidov (Uzbekistan) took the seats reserved for them at the side of the Council Chamber.

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Security Council will now continue its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/1996/865, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Germany, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, the United States of America and Uzbekistan. France, Italy and the Republic of Korea have joined as sponsors of the draft resolution.

I should like to draw the attention of members of the Council to the following oral revisions to be made to the text of the draft resolution contained in document S/1996/865 in its provisional form:

In the English text of the penultimate preambular paragraph, the words "as universally recognized" should be replaced by the words "as a universally recognized".

In the English text of operative paragraph 6, the words "Expresses its regret for" should be replaced by the words "Expresses its regret at".

In the English text of operative paragraph 8, in the first line, the word "effort" should be replaced by the word "efforts".

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to document S/1996/863, which contains the text of identical letters dated 18 October 1996 from the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution (S/1996/865) before it, as orally revised in its provisional form. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Botswana, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Italy, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution, as orally revised in its provisional form, has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1076 (1996).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.

United Nations S/PV.3707

Security Council

Fifty-first Year

Provisional

3707th Meeting

Tuesday, 22 October 1996, 11.45 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Urbizo Panting	(Honduras)
Members:	Botswana	Mr. Legwaila
	Chile	Mr. Larraín
	China	Mr. Wang Xuexian
	Egypt	Mr. Elaraby
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Germany	Mr. Eitel
	Guinea-Bissau	Mr. Cabral
	Indonesia	Mr. Wisnumurti
	Italy	Mr. Ferrarin
	Poland	Mr. Wlosowicz
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Park
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir John Weston
	United States of America	Mrs. Albright

Agenda

The situation in Georgia

Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 1065 (1996) (S/1996/644)

Report of the Secretary-General concerning the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia (S/1996/843)

96-86600 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 11.45 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Georgia

Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 1065 (1996) (S/1996/644)

Report of the Secretary-General concerning the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia (S/1996/843)

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Georgia, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Volski (Georgia) took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 1065 (1996), document S/1996/644, and the report of the Secretary-General concerning the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia, document S/1996/843.

Members of the Council also have before them document S/1996/866, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by France, Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

It is my understanding that the Security Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution (S/1996/866) before it. If I hear no objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

I shall first call on the representative of China, who wishes to make a statement before the voting.

Mr. Wang Xuexian (*interpretation from Chinese*): The Chinese Government has always supported the settlement of differences between the two parties concerned in Georgia through peaceful negotiations. We emphasize that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia must be respected, and we hope that the two sides demonstrate political sincerity and facilitate an early, comprehensive political settlement of the Georgian question through earnest negotiations.

In accordance with the agreement reached by the two parties in Georgia — and I wish to emphasize — in accordance with the agreement reached by the two parties in Georgia, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights will set up a human rights office in Abkhazia, Georgia. In order to ensure its efficiency and security, the Secretary-General recommended that the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) provide appropriate support facilities. In this connection, my delegation proposed reasonable solutions.

The Security Council has entrusted UNOMIG with the primary peacekeeping mandate. We are of the view that peacekeeping operations should have a clear mandate. They should not and cannot be all-inclusive, still less overextended by assuming responsibilities that fall to other agencies. It was on the basis of this principled position and with a constructive attitude that we proposed amendments to the draft resolution before us. Regrettably, however, our amendments were not accepted. We believe that it is beyond the Security Council's competence to authorize the establishment of the aforementioned office, and it is not in accordance with the Agreement between the two parties concerned. Therefore, the Chinese delegation cannot but abstain on the draft resolution.

We wish to emphasize that, even if this draft resolution is adopted, it should in no way set a precedent for other United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Chinese delegation would like this position to be reflected in the official record.

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): I now put to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/1996/866.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:
Botswana, Chile, Egypt, France, Germany, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Italy, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Against:
None

Abstaining:
China

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): The result of the voting is as follows: 14 in favour, none against and 1 abstention. The draft resolution has been adopted as resolution 1077 (1996).

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has considered the report of the Secretary-General concerning the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia, of 10 October 1996 (S/1996/843). It has also taken note of the letter from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the President of the Security Council of 8 October 1996 (S/1996/835).

"The Security Council notes with deep concern that no significant progress has yet been achieved towards a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict, including on the political status of Abkhazia, respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders.

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support for an active role of the United Nations, with the assistance of the Russian Federation as facilitator, aimed at achieving a comprehensive political settlement. In the context of the recent visit to the region of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, the Council requests the Secretary-General to undertake further efforts and make proposals to reinvigorate the stalled peace process. The Security Council stresses that the primary responsibility for achieving such reinvigoration of the peace process rests upon the parties themselves and calls on them, in particular the Abkhaz side, to resume discussions and to reach substantive progress in the negotiations.

"The Security Council is deeply concerned by the deterioration of the situation in the Gali region and its negative impact on the ability of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) to meet its mandated tasks. The Council condemns mine-laying and other threats referred to in the Secretary-General's report against UNOMIG and the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS peacekeeping force). The Council calls on both parties to take all the necessary steps to prevent all such acts.

"The Security Council calls on both parties to respect the Moscow Agreement of 14 May 1994 on a Cease-Fire and Separation of Forces (S/1994/583, annex I) and expresses its concern at the violations referred to in the Secretary-General's report, in particular the serious violations which recently occurred in the restricted weapons zone.

"The Security Council stresses that the international community's ability to assist depends on the full cooperation of the parties, especially the fulfilment of their obligations regarding the safety and freedom of movement of international personnel.

"The Security Council is deeply concerned at the announcement made by the Abkhaz side that so-called parliamentary elections would be held on 23 November 1996. The holding of such elections would only be possible after the determination through negotiations of the political status of Abkhazia respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders, within the framework of a comprehensive political settlement, and with the guaranteed possibility of full participation for all refugees and displaced persons. The Council notes that conditions for holding such elections are not met at present. It calls on the Abkhaz side to call off these elections and further calls on both sides to refrain from any action that could heighten tension.

"The Security Council remains deeply concerned at the continued obstruction of the return of the refugees and displaced persons by the Abkhaz authorities, which is totally unacceptable.

"The Security Council welcomes the good cooperation between UNOMIG and the CIS peacekeeping force and their efforts to promote stabilization of the situation in the zone of conflict.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to continue to keep it closely informed of the situation."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1996/43.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 12 noon.

United Nations S/PV.3708

Security Council

Fifty-first Year

Provisional

3708th Meeting

Friday, 1 November 1996, 3.30 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Wisnumurti	(Indonesia)
Members:	Botswana	Mr. Legwaila
	Chile	Mr. Somavía
	China	Mr. Qin Huasun
	Egypt	Mr. Elaraby
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Germany	Mr. Eitel
	Guinea-Bissau	Mr. Cabral
	Honduras	Mr. Martínez Blanco
	Italy	Mr. Fulci
	Poland	Mr. Wlosowicz
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Choi
	Russian Federation	Mr. Chtcherbak
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir John Weston
	United States of America	Mrs. Albright

Agenda

The situation in the Great Lakes region

Letters dated 14 and 24 October 1996 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1996/875 and S/1996/878)

96-86682 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 3.50 p.m.

Expression of thanks to the retiring President

The President: As this is the first meeting of the Security Council for the month of November, I should like to take this opportunity to pay tribute, on behalf of the Council, to His Excellency Mr. Gerardo Martínez Blanco, Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations, for his service as President of the Security Council for the month of October 1996. I am sure I speak for all members of the Security Council in expressing deep appreciation to Ambassador Martínez Blanco for the great diplomatic skill with which he conducted the Council's business last month.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Great Lakes region

Letters dated 14 and 24 October 1996 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1996/875 and S/1996/878)

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Zaire, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Lukabu Khabouji N'Zaji (Zaire) took a seat at the Council table.

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them documents S/1996/875 and S/1996/878, which contain the texts of letters dated 14 and 24 October 1996, respectively, from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the following other documents: S/1996/869, letter dated 23 October 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; S/1996/876, letter dated 25 October 1996 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General; and S/1996/886, letter dated 25 October 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council is gravely concerned at the deteriorating situation in the Great Lakes region, in particular eastern Zaire, and at the effect which the continued fighting is having on the inhabitants of the region and condemns all acts of violence. It underlines the urgent need for a comprehensive and coordinated response by the international community to prevent any further escalation of the crisis there.

"The Security Council calls for an immediate ceasefire and a complete cessation of all fighting in the region. The Council calls on all States to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring States in accordance with their obligations under the United Nations Charter. In this connection, it urges all parties to refrain from the use of force as well as cross-border incursions and to engage in a process negotiation.

"The Security Council, in the light of the letters of the Secretary-General to the President of the Council (S/1996/875 and S/1996/878), and the information received from the High Commissioner for Refugees and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights regarding the situation in eastern Zaire, is particularly concerned at the humanitarian situation and the resulting large-scale movements of refugees and displaced persons. It fully supports the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and humanitarian agencies to alleviate the suffering. It calls on all parties in the region to allow humanitarian agencies and non-governmental organizations to deliver humanitarian assistance to those in need and to ensure the safety of all refugees as well as the security and freedom of movement of all international humanitarian personnel. It

underlines the urgent need for the orderly voluntary repatriation and resettlement of refugees, and the return of displaced persons, which are crucial elements for the stability of the region.

"The Security Council agrees with the Secretary-General that the situation in eastern Zaire constitutes a serious threat to the stability of the Great Lakes region. It is convinced that the complex problems at issue can only be resolved through early and substantive dialogue. The Council urges the Governments of the region to pursue such a dialogue without further delay in order to defuse the tension. The Council calls upon all States in the region to create the conditions necessary for the speedy and peaceful resolution of the conflict, and to desist from any acts that may further exacerbate the situation. In this context, the Council welcomes all regional efforts aimed at defusing tension in the region, in particular the announcement of the meeting of regional leaders scheduled for 5 November 1996 in Nairobi, Kenya.

"The Security Council fully supports the initiative of the Secretary-General to dispatch to the Great Lakes region a Special Envoy to consult with all concerned in order to establish the facts relating to the present conflict; to develop as a matter of urgency a plan to defuse tension and establish a ceasefire; to promote a process of negotiation; and to submit advice on the mandate to be given to a United Nations Special Representative including on the size and structure of a United Nations political presence which, in consultation with the Governments and parties concerned, will be established in the Great Lakes region. The Council also considers that the Special Envoy should be provided with adequate staff and logistic resources in order to carry out his mission. The Council also expresses the hope that the mediation efforts of the Organization of African Unity and the European Union will complement those of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General. The Council calls upon all Governments and parties concerned to cooperate fully with the mission of the Special Envoy, and to contribute to the search for a comprehensive solution to the problems facing the people of the Great Lakes region. Given the urgency of the situation, the Council expresses the hope that the Special Envoy will travel as soon as possible to the region and provide early information on the situation there.

"The Security Council reiterates that the present situation in eastern Zaire underlines the need to organize a conference on peace, security and development in the Great Lakes region under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity. To this end, it calls on the Secretary-General to ask his Special Envoy to promote the convening and to encourage the adequate preparation of such a conference on an urgent basis.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1996/44.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The meeting rose at 4 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.3709

Security Council

Fifty-first Year

Provisional

3709th Meeting

Wednesday, 6 November 1996, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Wisnumurti	(Indonesia)
Members:	Botswana	Mr. Legwaila
	Chile	Mr. Larraín
	China	Mr. Qin Huasun
	Egypt	Mr. Elaraby
	France	Mr. Dejammet
	Germany	Mr. Eitel
	Guinea-Bissau	Mr. Cabral
	Honduras	Mr. Martínez Blanco
	Italy	Mr. Fulci
	Poland	Mr. Wlosowicz
	Republic of Korea	Mr. Park
	Russian Federation	Mr. Lavrov
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir John Weston
	United States of America	Mrs. Albright

Agenda

Election of five members of the International Court of Justice (S/1996/722, S/1996/723/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1 and S/1996/724 and Corr.1)

96-86724 (E)

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, *within one week of the date of publication*, to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-178.

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Election of five members of the International Court of Justice (S/1996/722, S/1996/723/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Corr.1, S/1996/724 and Corr.1)

The President: The Security Council will now proceed to the election of five members of the International Court of Justice, in accordance with Article 13 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, to fill the five seats which will become vacant on 5 February 1997 on the expiry of the terms of office of the following Judges: Mr. Mohammed Bedjaoui (Algeria), Mr. Stephen Schwebel (United States of America), Mr. Mohamed Shahabuddeen (Guyana), Mr. Vladlen S. Vereshchetin (Russian Federation) and Mr. Luigi Ferrari Bravo (Italy).

The consolidated and updated list of candidates nominated by national groups is contained in documents S/1996/723/Rev.1 and S/1996/723/Rev.1/Corr.1, which reflect all the information concerning notifications received by the Secretary-General of nominations by national groups. Documents S/1996/724 and S/1996/724/Corr.1 contain the curricula vitae of the candidates.

The Security Council also has before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General, contained in document S/1996/722, describing the present composition of the Court and setting out the procedure to be followed in the conduct of the election.

I should like to remind the Council that, under Article 10, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice,

> "Those candidates who obtain an absolute majority of votes in the General Assembly and in the Security Council shall be considered as elected."

The required majority in the Security Council is eight votes.

If more than five candidates obtain the required majority, according to the procedure which has been followed in the past and which is set forth in paragraph 14 of the Secretary-General's memorandum, a new vote will be held on all the candidates.

This rule will also apply to any subsequent ballots, if the number of candidates obtaining the absolute majority is greater than the number of vacancies remaining. If, on the other hand, in the first ballot the number of candidates obtaining the absolute majority is less than five, the Council will proceed to a second ballot on the remaining vacancies, and balloting will continue in the same manner until five of the candidates have obtained the required majority of votes.

The voting will be held by secret ballot. When we proceed to the vote, members of the Council will receive a ballot paper containing the names of all the candidates. No withdrawal will be accepted once the ballot papers have been distributed. However, it would be possible to withdraw between ballots. Members of the Council will be requested to place an "X" in the boxes next to the names of the candidates for whom they wish to vote. Only those candidates whose names appear on the ballot paper are eligible for election.

I should like to remind members of paragraph 11 of the Secretary-General's memorandum, which specifies that

> "Each elector may vote for not more than five candidates on the first ballot". *(S/1996/722, para. 11)*

Any ballot paper containing votes for more than five names will be considered invalid. When five candidates have obtained the required majority of votes, I shall communicate the result to the President of the General Assembly, and I shall request the Council to remain in session pending the receipt from the President of the General Assembly of the result of the voting in the Assembly.

The Council will now proceed to draw lots to select two delegations to serve as tellers.

* * *

The President: The names of the delegations of France and the United States of America have been drawn. I request each of those delegations to appoint one member to serve as teller.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Legal (France) and Mr. Rosenstock (United States of America) acted as tellers.

The President: May I take it that the Council is now ready to proceed with the election of five members of the International Court of Justice?

It is so decided.

I request the Conference Officer to distribute the ballot papers.

Members of the Council should place an "X" in the boxes next to the names of the five candidates for whom they wish to vote.

* * *

The President: I take it that all members of the Council have now voted, and I ask the Conference Officer to collect the ballot papers.

* * *

The President: All the ballot papers have been collected. I should like to remind the Council that, as we agreed during our consultations, the ballots will not be counted until it has been verified that the ballot papers in the General Assembly have been collected. The Council will remain in session pending the receipt of that information.

* * *

The President: I have now been informed that the ballot papers have been collected in the General Assembly.

The counting of the ballots in the Security Council will now begin. The tellers will now count the ballots.

As agreed in our consultations, there will be two independent countings of the ballots, one by each teller.

* * *

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	15
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	15
Required majority:	8

Number of votes obtained:

Mr. Stephen M. Schwebel	15
Mr. Vladlen S. Vereshchetin	15
Mr. Mohammed Bedjaoui	14
Mr. Pieter H. Kooijmans	8
Mr. Francisco Rezek	6
Mr. Mohamed Shahabuddeen	6
Mr. José Antonio Pastor Ridruejo	5
Mr. Mehmet Güney	2
Mr. Francisco Orrego Vicuña	2
Mr. Patrick Robinson	2
Mr. Murat K. Azimov	0

Accordingly, the following candidates have obtained the required majority of votes in the Security Council: Mr. Stephen M. Schwebel, Mr. Vladlen S. Vereshchetin, Mr. Mohammed Bedjaoui and Mr. Pieter H. Kooijmans.

Since fewer than five candidates have received the required eight votes, the Council will now proceed to a second ballot for the remaining vacancy, in accordance with rule 61 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

I would like to remind members that each member may vote for no more than one candidate.

All candidates are eligible for voting except those who have received the required majority of votes in the previous ballot.

Any ballot paper containing votes for more than one candidate will be invalid.

May I take it that the Council is now ready to proceed with the election of one member of the International Court of Justice?

It is so decided.

I request the Conference Officer to distribute the ballot papers.

I request members of the Council to place an "X" in the box next to the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote.

* * *

The President: I take it that all the members of the Council have now marked their ballots. I ask the Conference Officer to collect the ballot papers.

* * *

The President: All the ballot papers have been collected.

The tellers will now count the ballots. There will be two independent countings of the ballots, one by each teller.

* * *

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	15
Number of invalid ballots:	2
Number of valid ballots:	13
Required majority:	8
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Francisco Rezek	5
Mr. Mohamed Shahabuddeen	4
Mr. Patrick Robinson	3
Mr. Mehmet Güney	1
Mr. Murat K. Azimov	0
Mr. Francisco Orrego Vicuña	0
Mr. José Antonio Pastor Ridruejo	0

Since, after a second ballot, the number of candidates who have received the required eight votes is still less than five, the Council will now proceed to a third ballot for the remaining vacancy, in accordance with rule 61 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

I would like to remind members that each member may vote for no more than one candidate.

All candidates are eligible for election except those who have received the required majority of votes in the previous ballots. Any ballot paper containing votes for more than one candidate will be invalid. Please mark an "X" in the box for only one candidate.

May I take it that the Council is now ready to proceed with the election of one member of the International Court of Justice?

It is so decided.

I request the Conference Officer to distribute the ballot papers.

I request members of the Council to place an "X" in the box next to the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote.

* * *

The President: I take it that all the members of the Council have now voted, and I ask the Conference Officer to collect the ballot papers.

* * *

The President: All the ballot papers have been collected.

The tellers will now count the ballots. There will be two independent countings of the ballots, one by each teller.

* * *

The President: The result of the voting is as follows:

Number of ballot papers:	15
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	15
Required majority:	8
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Francisco Rezek	8
Mr. Francisco Orrego Vicuña	4
Mr. Mohamed Shahabuddeen	3
Mr. Murat K. Azimov	0
Mr. Mehmet Güney	0
Mr. José Antonio Pastor Ridruejo	0
Mr. Patrick Robinson	0

The following five candidates have received the required majority of votes in the Security Council: Mr. Mohammed Bedjaoui, Mr. Pieter H. Kooijmans, Mr. Francisco Rezek, Mr. Stephen M. Schwebel and Mr. Vladlen S. Vereshchetin.

I shall communicate the result of the vote to the President of the General Assembly in writing.

I request the Council to remain in session while we wait for the President of the General Assembly to inform the Council of the result of the voting in the Assembly.

The meeting was suspended at 12.35 p.m. and resumed at 12.40 p.m.

The President: I should like to inform the members of the Council that I have just received from the President of the General Assembly the following letter:

> "I have the honour to inform you that, at the 54th plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held today for the purpose of electing five members of the International Court of Justice, the following candidates obtained an absolute majority of votes in the General Assembly: Mr. Mohammed Bedjaoui, Mr. Pieter Kooijmans, Mr. Francisco Rezek, Mr. Stephen Schwebel and Mr. Vladlen Vereshchetin."

As both the Security Council and the General Assembly have agreed on the same candidates, the distinguished jurists Mr. Mohammed Bedjaoui, Mr. Pieter Kooijmans, Mr. Francisco Rezek, Mr. Stephen Schwebel and Mr. Vladlen Vereshchetin have been elected as members of the International Court of Justice for a term of office of nine years, beginning on 6 February 1997.

I should like to congratulate them and wish them every success in the high office to which they have been elected.

I should also like to thank the tellers for their assistance.

The Security Council has thus concluded its business for this meeting.

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.